

- (ii) If the project is no longer necessary as determined by the HoPE; and
 - (iii) If the source of funds for the project has been withheld or reduced through no fault of the Procuring Entity.
- 30.3. In addition, the Procuring Entity may likewise declare a failure of bidding when:
- (a) No bids are received;
 - (b) All prospective Bidders are declared ineligible;
 - (c) All bids fail to comply with all the bid requirements or fail post-qualification; or
 - (d) The bidder with the LCRB refuses, without justifiable cause to accept the award of contract, and no award is made in accordance with Section 40 of the IRR of RA 9184.

F. Award of Contract

31. Contract Award

- 31.1. Subject to **ITB** Clause 29, the HoPE or its duly authorized representative shall award the contract to the Bidder whose bid has been determined to be the LCRB.
- 31.2. Prior to the expiration of the period of bid validity, the Procuring Entity shall notify the successful Bidder in writing that its bid has been accepted, through a Notice of Award duly received by the Bidder or its representative personally or sent by registered mail or electronically, receipt of which must be confirmed in writing within two (2) days by the Bidder with the LCRB and submitted personally or sent by registered mail or electronically to the Procuring Entity.
- 31.3. Notwithstanding the issuance of the Notice of Award, award of contract shall be subject to the following conditions:
- (a) Submission of the following documents within ten (10) calendar days from receipt of the Notice of Award:
 - (i) Valid JVA, if applicable; or
 - (ii) In the case of procurement by a Philippine Foreign Service Office or Post, the PhilGEPS Registration Number of the winning foreign Bidder;
 - (b) Posting of the performance security in accordance with **ITB** Clause 33;
 - (c) Signing of the contract as provided in **ITB** Clause 32; and

- (d) Approval by higher authority, if required, as provided in Section 37.3 of the IRR of RA 9184.

31.4. At the time of contract award, the Procuring Entity shall not increase or decrease the quantity of goods originally specified in Section VI. Schedule of Requirements.

32. Signing of the Contract

32.1. At the same time as the Procuring Entity notifies the successful Bidder that its bid has been accepted, the Procuring Entity shall send the Contract Form to the Bidder, which contract has been provided in the Bidding Documents, incorporating therein all agreements between the parties.

32.2. Within ten (10) calendar days from receipt of the Notice of Award, the successful Bidder shall post the required performance security, sign and date the contract and return it to the Procuring Entity.

32.3. The Procuring Entity shall enter into contract with the successful Bidder within the same ten (10) calendar day period provided that all the documentary requirements are complied with.

32.4. The following documents shall form part of the contract:

- (a) Contract Agreement;
- (b) Bidding Documents;
- (c) Winning bidder's bid, including the Technical and Financial Proposals, and all other documents/statements submitted (*e.g.*, bidder's response to request for clarifications on the bid), including corrections to the bid, if any, resulting from the Procuring Entity's bid evaluation;
- (d) Performance Security;
- (e) Notice of Award of Contract; and
- (f) Other contract documents that may be required by existing laws and/or specified in the **BDS**.

33. Performance Security

33.1. To guarantee the faithful performance by the winning Bidder of its obligations under the contract, it shall post a performance security within a maximum period of ten (10) calendar days from the receipt of the Notice of Award from the Procuring Entity and in no case later than the signing of the contract.

33.2. The Performance Security shall be denominated in Philippine Pesos and posted in favor of the Procuring Entity in an amount not less than the percentage of the total contract price in accordance with the following schedule:

Form of Performance Security	Amount of Performance Security (Not less than the Percentage of the Total Contract Price)
(a) Cash or cashier's/manager's check issued by a Universal or Commercial Bank.	Five percent (5%)
(b) Bank draft/guarantee or irrevocable letter of credit issued by a Universal or Commercial Bank: Provided, however, that it shall be confirmed or authenticated by a Universal or Commercial Bank, if issued by a foreign bank.	
(c) Surety bond callable upon demand issued by a surety or insurance company duly certified by the Insurance Commission as authorized to issue such security.	Thirty percent (30%)

33.3. Failure of the successful Bidder to comply with the above-mentioned requirement shall constitute sufficient ground for the annulment of the award and forfeiture of the bid security, in which event the Procuring Entity shall have a fresh period to initiate and complete the post qualification of the second Lowest Calculated Bid. The procedure shall be repeated until the LCRB is identified and selected for recommendation of contract award. However if no Bidder passed post-qualification, the BAC shall declare the bidding a failure and conduct a re-bidding with re-advertisement, if necessary.

34. Notice to Proceed

Within seven (7) calendar days from the date of approval of the contract by the appropriate government approving authority, the Procuring Entity shall issue the Notice to Proceed (NTP) together with a copy or copies of the approved contract to the successful Bidder. All notices called for by the terms of the contract shall be effective only at the time of receipt thereof by the successful Bidder.

35. Protest Mechanism

Decisions of the procuring entity at any stage of the procurement process may be questioned in accordance with Section 55 of the IRR of RA 9184.